

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A transport system having a plurality of processing units disposed by a roadside and interconnected through a network, said processing units each ~~executing predetermined processing for~~ including a radio communication unit for communicating with a mobile body, wherein:

each of said plurality of processing units comprises:

A11 means for directly receiving location information indicative of a location at which ~~a the~~ mobile body ~~associated with the processing~~ exists by using the radio communication unit;

means for determining whether or not ~~said a~~ processing for the mobile body is executed based on said location information; and

means for executing said processing based on the result of determination.

2. (Currently Amended) A transport system according to claim 1, wherein:

said means for directly receiving receives contents information indicative of the contents of a request for said processing by using the radio communication unit; and

said means for determining determines whether or not processing corresponding to said contents information is executed based on said location information.

3. (Currently Amended) A transport system according to claim 1, wherein:

A" said existing location indicates a location at which said mobile body existed at the time said location information was transmitted, the location information being directly received by using said radio communication unit.

4. (Currently Amended) A transport system according to claim 1, wherein:

said location information indicates a location at which said mobile body exists at the time said processing should be executed, said location being calculated by a processing unit other than the processing unit performing the processing; and

said means for receiving further receives identification information for identifying said mobile body.

5. (Currently Amended) A transport system according to claim 1, wherein:

said location information indicates a location at which said mobile body exists at the time said processing should be executed, said location being calculated by a processing unit other than the processing unit performing the processing; and

said means for receiving further receives time information indicative of a time at which said processing should be executed.

A" 6. (Currently Amended) A transport system according to claim 1, wherein:

said location information is transmitted from said mobile body;

said location information indicates a location at which said mobile body is moving when said location information is transmitted; and

said means for determining compares the location indicated by said location information with a location at which said processing unit exists, and determines that said processing should be executed when the result of ~~the~~ comparison calculating a distance between the locations to be compared indicates that the location indicated by said location information is within a ~~predetermine~~ predetermined

distance from the location at which said processing unit exists.

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing method in a transport system having a plurality of processing units disposed by a roadside and interconnected through a network, ~~said said~~ processing units each ~~executing predetermined processing for a mobile body, said method comprising the steps of~~ including a radio communication unit for communicating with a mobile body, the method comprising the steps of:

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said mobile body transmitting request information to at least one of said plurality of processing units, said request information including contents information indicative of contents of a request for ~~said~~ a processing for the mobile body, and location information indicative of a location at which said mobile body exists;

a processing unit, which has received said request information, transmitting said request information to said plurality of processing units through said network; and

each of said plurality of processing units, which have received said request information, determining based on said location information whether or not said processing unit

should execute processing corresponding to a request indicated by said contents information.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 7, wherein:

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said mobile body periodically transmits confirmation information to at least one of said processing units capable of performing the radio communication until said mobile body receives said processing after said request information is transmitted;

the processing unit which has received the confirmation information does not communicate with said mobile body when said processing unit determines that the processing cannot be executed; and

said mobile body determines that said mobile body is not provided with the requested information when said mobile body continues the transmission of the confirmation information for a predetermined period of time without receiving any response.

10. (Currently Amended) An information processing method according to claim 7, wherein:

~~when it is determined that~~ said processing is executed by a plurality of processing units, said mobile body receives results of the processing from said plurality of processing units, said method further comprising maintaining a result of the processing executed at the earliest time by one of said processing units, and discarding results of the processing executed by the rest of said processing units.

A" 11. (Currently Amended) A processing unit interconnected with a plurality of identical processing units disposed by a roadside through a network, said processing units each including a radio communication unit for communicating with a mobile body to constitute a transport system for executing predetermined processing for ~~a~~ the mobile body, said processing unit comprising:

a memory for storing a program for executing a predetermined processing for the mobile body;

a communication interface connected to said network for receiving location information indicative of a location at which ~~a~~ the mobile body ~~associated with processing~~ exists; and

a processor connected to said communication interface and said memory through a bus, for receiving said location information from said communication interface, determining

whether or not said processing should be executed based on a program stored in said memory, and executing said processing based on the result of determination.

12. (Original) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 11, wherein:

said communication interface receives contents information indicative of contents of a request for said processing; and

said processor determines whether or not said processing should be executed based on said location information.

13. (Currently Amended) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 12, wherein:

said existing location indicates a location at which said mobile body existed at the time said location information was transmitted, the location information having been transmitted through the network from a processing unit other than the processing unit performing the processing.

14. (Currently Amended) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 12, wherein:

said location information indicates a location at which said mobile body exists at the time said processing should be executed, said location being calculated by a processing unit other than the processing unit performing the processing; and

said communication interface further receives identification information for identifying said mobile body.

15. (Currently Amended) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 12, wherein:

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said location information indicates a location at which said mobile body exists at the time said processing should be executed, said location being calculated by a processing unit other than the processing unit performing the processing; and

said communication interface further receives time information indicative of a time at which said processing should be executed.

16. (Currently Amended) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 11, wherein:

said communication interface receives said location information transmitted from said mobile body; and

said processor compares the location indicated by said location information with a location at which said processing

unit exists, and determines that said processing should be executed when the location indicated by said location information is within a ~~predetermine~~ predetermined distance from the location at which said processing unit exists.

17. (Currently Amended) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 16, wherein:

A" said location information is ~~at least one~~ of a location at a time which said processing unit estimates and at which said mobile body exists when transmitting said location information ~~is transmitted, and a location at which said mobile body transmitting said location information is estimated to exist~~ exists at the time the requested processing is executed.

18. (Original) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 16, wherein:

said processor determines whether at least one of a straight distance between a location indicated by said location information and a location at which said processing unit exists, and a distance between the location indicated by said location information and the location at which said processing unit exists, in consideration of a route on which

said mobile body is moving, is within a predetermined distance.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) A processing unit in a transport system according to claim 11, wherein:

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said network is connected to a local server apparatus which stores information on a predetermined region; and

said processor executes processing for searching said local server apparatus for requested information through said communication interface as said predetermined processing.
